

INTRODUCTION OF THE PROPOSED
NORTH MAUI COASTAL PRESER-
VATION ACT OF 2004

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the proposed North Maui Coastal Preservation Act of 2004, a bill directing the National Park Service to assess the feasibility of designating certain coastal lands on the north shore of the Island of Maui between the towns of Pa'ia and Sprecklesville as a unit of the National Park Service. This area is fully worthy of designation as a National Seashore, National Historic Park, or National Recreation Area.

Since assuming office as the representative for Hawai'i's Second Congressional District, I have heard loud and clear from the people of Maui, in person during countless times on the island and through petitions and postcards from some 2,000 constituents, about their deep concern for preserving this beautiful, historically significant and resources-rich coastline. Although the 128 acres identified in the bill are currently zoned as open space or parkland, they lie directly in the path of development in Maui's hot real estate market.

The desire of the people of Maui is to have the natural, scenic, and cultural resources of this unique area preserved and protected from development, and ultimately designated as the Patsy Takemoto Mink North Shore Heritage Park. As many of my colleagues know, my predecessor in this body, the late Congresswoman Patsy T. Mink, was born and grew up in Hamakua Poko, a small village near Pa'ia on just this coastline. If the Park Service finds that the area merits inclusion in the National Park System, I will introduce legislation authorizing establishment of a park and directing that it be named after Congresswoman Mink.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the contribution of the Maui Sierra Club and especially of Lance Holter, a dedicated community activist, for inspiring the introduction of this bill. I can tell by the hundreds of cards I continue to receive from Maui residents in support of establishing such a park that there are many more people who have dedicated enormous energy and time in the hopes of preserving our precious natural and cultural heritage for future generations.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill, and invite you to come to the Island of Maui to visit this special area. I know that if you do so, you will be convinced as I am of the vital importance of protecting these lands.

50 YEARS OF RFE/RL
BROADCASTING OF BELARUS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, May 20, 2004 will mark the 50 year anniversary of Congressional action which authorized broadcasting to Belarus. This is an anniversary, which I note with some regret. It is unfortunate that we still need to broadcast to Belarus, and it is unfortu-

nate that democracy and freedom of speech have not made greater progress there.

The transition to democracy and genuine freedom of speech in the former communist countries has never been easy. Belarus, a former Soviet republic that regained its independence when the Soviet Union collapsed in 1991, is an exception when compared to its neighbors, such as Ukraine and Russia. Since elected President in 1994, Alexander Lukashenka has relentlessly curbed independent media outlets in Belarus. As his regime became increasingly authoritarian, leaders of the democratic opposition have disappeared; civil society activists have been routinely detained, beaten by Special Forces, imprisoned and fined by government courts; and numerous NGOs have been closed. Belarus is the only country in Europe where Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) continues to broadcast as it did during the darkest days of the Cold war—exclusively from abroad and relying primarily on short wave radio.

Mr. Speaker, RFE/RL listeners in Belarus greatly appreciate this service provided by U.S. taxpayers. The atmosphere of fear does not stop people from expressing their feelings of gratitude and support. A priest from a regional town writes to RFE/RL: "When I listen to your programs I think that it is God who is speaking through your waves to Belarusians." A listener from Minsk, the country's capital, writes: "Radio Liberty is doing more for democracy in Belarus than all the opposition taken together." A former member of parliament, Uladzimir Kudinsky, imprisoned by the Lukashenka regime, was listening to the RFE/RL Belarus service over a radio smuggled into prison and found out that due to international pressure he was to be released in a week. The ground breaking reporting of the RFE/RL Belarus service helped discover and document illegal arms deals between the Lukashenka regime and Saddam Hussein.

It is a tradition of the Belarus service to step in and give an outlet to those who the government tries to muffle—opposition leaders, journalists from banned newspapers and magazines, children from the only Belarusian language high school which was shut down by the authorities, and civil society activists who are harassed and arrested. For 50 years the RFE/RL Belarus service was the major and most popular independent voice from abroad broadcasting domestic and international news into a state-controlled media environment and it has been carrying out this mission with professionalism, courage and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending the Belorussian service of RFE/RL for its persistence and professionalism on this 50th anniversary. The Belorussian listeners of the RFE/RL who tune in to its broadcasts, truly hear a "voice of freedom"—objective coverage of events within and outside of Belarus and, perhaps even more precious, a sense of solidarity with the world communities of democracies and hope for freedom for themselves.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. EVELYN
ALETHIA BONAPARTE HAYNES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 19, 2004

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Evelyn Alethia Bonaparte Haynes, a native South Carolinian whose dedication to the education of all children—regardless of economic background or racial identity—shines as an example to all who love children. On June 23, 2004, would have celebrated her 91st birthday, and in commemorating her legacy, I believe it is important to highlight a few of the contributions that she made.

Born in Charleston, South Carolina, Mrs. Haynes attended Wallingford and Buist Elementary Schools and Charleston's Avery Institute. She later graduated from South Carolina State College—now South Carolina State University—where she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education. In 1958, she received a Master of Arts degree in Elementary Education, Supervision, and Administration from Teachers College at Columbia University in New York.

Mrs. Haynes made significant contributions to the education of children through her dedicated service in a number of positions. She began her teaching career in Beaufort, South Carolina. In 1936, she was employed by the Charleston County Department of Education, now the Charleston County School District. She served as teacher and principal at Miley Hill Elementary School in Ravenel, South Carolina for 14 years. In 1964, she was appointed the Jeanes Supervisor for the Charleston County Department of Education where she served until 1967. It was during these years that I met and for three years worked in consultation with her. After desegregation of the public schools in 1967, she was the first African-American appointed to an administrative position in the Charleston County public school system. She became Assistant Personnel Director for the Charleston County Public School District and remained in that position until her retirement in 1974.

Retirement, however, did not quell her passion for service. In 1974, Mrs. Haynes was elected to the City of Charleston's Constituent School District #20 Board of Trustees and served in that position until 1978. She advocated for high academic standards, high-quality learning materials, smaller classes, competitive salaries, trained administrators, and parental involvement.

Mrs. Haynes received numerous awards, citations, and honors for her active membership in her church, her public service contributions, and her distinguished career in education. She has been recognized by the Charleston Branch of the National Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), by Shaw University, and by Miley Hill Elementary School for her achievements.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the life and legacy of this venerable woman on what would have been her 91st birthday. She blazed a trail in her community through education and service that continues to influence future generations. This committed teacher from South Carolina has demonstrated with great fervor, her commitment to excellence and to the highest of